

15 and R³ = H or a substituted or unsubstituted, straight or
branched chain acyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms; or
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

Please replace claim 3 with the following:

3. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said
otoprotective agent is selected from the group consisting of D-
methionine, L-methionine, a mixture of D-methionine and L-
methionine, methioninol, hydroxy methionine, ethionine, S-
adenosyl-L-methionine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt
thereof, and a combination thereof.
